



# Oakmont PC Users Group

## E-Mail Newsletter

April 1, 2008

Volume 2 Number 4

### **Officers:**

**President:** Art Nichols  
[annpqn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:annpqn@sbcglobal.net)

**Vice President:**  
Gordon Ramsey  
[ramsey7999@sbcglobal.net](mailto:ramsey7999@sbcglobal.net)

**Secretary:** Ruth Caldwell  
[ruthiec@sonic.net](mailto:ruthiec@sonic.net)

**Treasurer:** Gary Goodenough  
[gmgoody@pacbell.net](mailto:gmgoody@pacbell.net)

**Communications:**  
Charlie McBride  
[sailor38@sonic.net](mailto:sailor38@sonic.net)

**Helper Committee:**  
Bill Richards  
[wgrich@sonic.net](mailto:wgrich@sonic.net)

**Help Volunteers:** *The following is a list of individuals who have offered to help solve your computer problems. If you have a problem and before you do violence to your computer, give one of these knowledgeable folks a call:*

Gary Caldwell	538-4153
Jack Feniger	538-8809
Gordon Ramsey	538-4981
Bob Rietow	537-0451
Phil Kenny	538-2075
Bob Stinson	539-7684

### **We're on the Web!**

<http://opcugroup.googlepages.com/>

### **President's Message**

While driving to her presentation on wireless usage in mid March, Judie Coleman drove around parts of Oakmont with her laptop computer on the passenger's seat. Her computer was running a program that logged on any wireless signals received. During her presentation, she projected on the screen the list of well over one hundred residences with such facilities. Most such users probably have this equipment to augment the use of their laptops.

Judie's array indicated that many of these users were in jeopardy of unauthorized entry into their computer systems, and she spent some time covering actions users could take to reduce that jeopardy significantly. If you did not attend Judie's presentation and are a wireless user, you might want to speak to Judie or one of OPCUG's experts (listed at the bottom left of this page) about how you can reduce your vulnerability. Copies of Judie's handout will be available at the April meeting.

**Art Nichols, President**

### **What's New on the Web Page**

The club's web page, <http://opcugroup.googlepages.com/>, has been updated with the following:

1. The February 1, 2008, Newsletter was added to the Archive and the March 1, 2008, Newsletter was mounted in the masthead.
2. The PC Classes for Spring 2008 for the Oakmont PC Computer Learning Center were added. Because of the remodeling, there will be no further classes until the remodeled facility is completed. This is expected in February 2009.
3. The handout from Judie Coleman's talk to the club on March 27, 2008, was uploaded. Anyone who uses a router to permit wireless access to the internet should carefully review the handout. The last page of the handout is especially valuable in that it provides specific settings that can be used in setting up a router to maximize security. If you have a router and do not feel comfortable in making the settings, call one of the volunteers for help.

***Hello Betty***

### **Welcome New Member**

This month we welcome **Betty Fromberg**. The vitality of the club relies on the active participation our members. We invite you to contact Gordon Ramsey (or any other Board Member) to express your special interests. Please remember that you are welcome at meetings of the Board. The next Board Meeting is scheduled for April 14 (the second Monday) as noted in the paragraph below.

***Questions???***

### **April "Q and A" Meeting**

**Monday, April 14 – Computer Talk Session, West Recreation Center at 2:45 p.m.**

The OPCUG "Q & A" Meeting (Computer Talk Session) will be held at 2:45 p.m. on Monday, April 14. This question and answer period will be led by the technical committee. You will be asked to jot down your questions. Three by five cards will be available. This session starts at 2:45 p.m. following the OPCUG Board Meeting that will start at 1:45 p.m.. All members are welcome at Board Meetings.

***Do You Really Want To Know???***

### **April General Meeting**

**Monday, April 21, West Recreation Center at 2 p.m.**

Following remarks by President Art Nichols, Tony Hoskins will present a program covering genealogy research using computers. He is a history, genealogy and archives librarian at the Sonoma County Library. Many of us would like to learn more about our ancestors. He will show us how to do it.

After the presentation, the Hospitality Committee will help distribute door prizes and will provide light refreshments.

***Judie, Judie, Judie***

### **Thanks to Judie Coleman**

We wish to thank Judie Coleman for her fine presentation on March 17. She discussed and answered questions concerning WiFi, networking and file/device sharing. Judie addressed possible problems and how to minimize them. If you wish a copy of her handout, copies will be available from Gran DeMerritt after the next general meeting on April 21. Again, thank you Judie.

***Need a Handout?***

### **Handouts from Past Meetings**

Gran DeMerritt has prepared a sheet listing many past meeting presentations. Please see Gran (near the Exchange Table) after the April 21 meeting to pick up this sheet. With this list you will be able to ask him for handouts that may be of interest to you. His copies of "handouts" will include that for the March 17<sup>th</sup> WiFi presentation by Judie Coleman.

***Need Help???***

### **Helper List**

Copies of the latest list of members who are willing to assist others with minor computer problems will be available at the General Meeting on April 21. The list also includes a number of computer professionals who serve in this area.

## ***Great Treats!***

### **Hospitality**

Among those assisting Dorrelle Aasland with refreshments on March 17 were Ralph King, Betty Seacord and Jill White. Sincere thanks to each of you.

### **Show Control Panel as a Menu**

The "Control Panel" is an extremely useful tool to be used in making your computer serve you better or for getting to the bottom of things that are not performing as you wish. It is found by clicking on the "Start" button and looking at the right column of the displayed menu (do not have your cursor on "All Programs") at about the mid point. If you click on "Control Panel," it will be displayed as either "Category View" or "Classic View." For this feature you should use the "Classic View" which gives you direct access to the individual items in the panel without going through the intermediate step of selecting a category. If the "Category View" comes up, click on the words in the left column "Switch to Classic View."

## ***Access Control Panel items without Opening the Control Panel***

For access to Control Panel items without opening the Control Panel, you need to set the items list as a submenu of the Control Panel. Right Click on the "Start" button and select "Properties." Click the "Customize" button and then click the "Advanced" tab. Select the check box (circle) for "Display as a menu." Click on the OK's to close the dialog. Now, when you click the "Start" button you will see a small arrow to the right of "Control Panel." When you hover over the "Control Panel" the submenu, a list of the items available for selection, will appear.

### **Take a look at You Tube**

An unbelievable collection of videos is available to all at a single mouse click. Go to <http://youtube.com/> to take a look. You will be greeted by the home page with a group of navigation tabs at the top. Then comes a strip of videos being "viewed right now" which changes every five seconds. Strips of promoted videos and featured videos follow. All major Presidential candidates upload their promotions and many detractors do likewise. Try it but, **CAUTION**, the site can be highly addictive!

## ***Lookie***

### **SRJC Digital Photography Series**

Oakmont Lifelong Learning and the Santa Rosa Junior College have arranged a series called Digital Photography Techniques to be held in Oakmont at Berger Center. Do you wish to take pictures better than anything you've done before? How about learning the tricks to organize, achieve, retrieve and share your pictures with the world? With great data in, you will get beautiful pictures out. You can join Derrick Story for the series and increase your skills. Sessions will be held on May 7, 14, 28, and June 4 from 6:30 until 8:30 p.m. Information and registration forms are available at the O.V.A. office. There is a fee of \$66 payable to SRJC for this series.

## ***Pep Up Your Pics!***

### **To opt out of this E-Mail:**

If you do not care to receive information from the club through the E-Mail Newsletter, you may opt to have us delete your name from our distribution list. You will need to let us know at: [sailor38@sonic.net](mailto:sailor38@sonic.net)